

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (new) An internal combustion engine, comprising: at least one cylinder head having a housing; an injector provided in the housing so as to inject fuel; a wire harness for transmitting signals from an electronic controller to the injector, the wire harness including a first section extending from the electronic controller to the cylinder head housing and a second section extending from the cylinder head housing to the injector; and means for connecting the first section to the second section of the wire harness, the connecting means including a terminal carrier and a boot, both the terminal carrier and the boot having self-locking means by which the terminal carrier and the boot lock themselves in place.

14. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the self-locking means of the boot corresponds to a latching ring.

15. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the self-locking means of the boot corresponds to a latching lobe.

16. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the self-locking means of the terminal carrier corresponds to a latching lobe.

17. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 14, wherein the latching ring of the boot is configured to grip the terminal carrier to lock the boot in place on the terminal carrier.

18. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 14, wherein the latching lobe of the boot is configured to grip the terminal carrier to lock the boot in place on the terminal carrier.

19. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 16, wherein the latching lobe of the terminal carrier is configured to grip the cylinder head housing so as to lock the terminal carrier in place thereon.

20. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 19, wherein the terminal carrier comprises a terminal and a cover.

21. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 20, wherein the terminal carrier comprises a compression spring for exerting a clamping force, and a conductor strip.

22. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the terminal carrier has a circumferential groove to accept a sealing ring.

23. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, and further comprising a corrugated hose between the first section of the wire harness and the boot.

24. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 21, wherein the second section of the wire harness is permanently connected to the conductor strip of the terminal carrier.

25. (new) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the first section of the wire harness is detachably connected to the terminal carrier.

26. (new) A process for installing a connecting means having a terminal carrier and a boot, both the terminal carrier and the boot having self-locking mechanism by which the terminal carrier and the boot lock themselves in place in a cylinder head housing, the process comprising

{00686542.1}

the steps of: fixing the terminal carrier in place on the cylinder head housing by the self-locking mechanism; bringing a second section of a wire harness into contact with an injector; connecting a first section of the wire harness to the terminal carrier; and fixing the boot in place on the terminal carrier by the self-locking mechanism.

27. (new) The process according to claim 26, including permanently connecting the second section of the wire harness to a conductor strip of the terminal carrier.

28. (new) The process according to claim 26, including detachably connecting the first section of the wire harness to the terminal carrier (8).

